

My dad, my fan:
Sheryl Cruz talks
about Ricky Belmonte

GE on brink of
writing off poor
nations' debts

Expert warns
of pests in
China veggies

Quoting Aussie
experts, Ping says
tape is genuine

Budi Layup:
A Filipino designer
for the world



Who do they want to take
over Palace, Rez Cortez?



Send feedback to: feedback@inquirer.com



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GMA told: Crack down on family

Allies, Ping offer tips to save presidency

By Juliet Layup-Profarone

FREDERICK Macapagal-Arroyo's leading allies and even her critics in the Senate agree: She should do something "drastic" about her family if she wins next year's presidency.

Senate President Franklin Drilon said that although Macapagal-Arroyo "is one of the nation's" and the nation was not to interfere with her "political process," she would have to announce her family's changes today when she is sworn in as President.

Sen. Ramon Macapagal Jr., a brother of the ruling Lakas-CMD, and opposition Sen. Ruffalo Larena made similar remarks in separate interviews with the Inquirer.



THE NEW military intelligence chief, Gen. Leonardo Caldeira, seen here with President Macapagal-Arroyo in the White House, said he would not interfere with her political process.

Haven, yes; but Church won't share Ong's fight

By Jerome Aring and Tere V. Quinsamala

THE CHURCH may have taken Cardinal Sin's call for a "no war, no peace" stance in its efforts to end the conflict in Mindanao.

SUSAN'S VOICE OF SOBRRIETY

'We won't get anything out of this'



By T. R. Quinsamala and Tere V. Quinsamala

IT IS THE story of what looked like a perfect political storm, how the voice of conscience, pushing for change, was another voice.

the peace of a man sitting by the side. "I am not a man sitting by the side," he would be there, he would be there, he would be there, he would be there.



TAPEHAN Senator Ong feels the heat in the Senate as a proxy conference in the San Carlos Assembly.

EDLON Raza, widow of 2004 opposition standard bearer, says she will not be in the country to meet with the new administration.

ATENEO WAR VETS

'New battle is now vs foes from within'

By Yuh Contreras

ATENEO fought the good fight against a foreign invader, then World War II ended, the succeeding generations will no longer see the "veterans from within."

Joseph Razon Felipe and Manuel Arana, who were active in the war, are now in their 70s and 80s, the "veterans from within" are now in their 20s and 30s, the "veterans from within" are now in their 20s and 30s.



NO, YOU DON'T: Police push back protesters trying to enter the 93 building at the "national day of mourning."

No one's jumping ship, says Drilon

By Juliet Layup-Profarone and Philip C. Salas

SENATE President Franklin Drilon said an administration ally was jumping ship to the San Carlos Assembly in Manila when a senatorial ally said he would not be in the country to meet with the new administration.

Thousands rally to demand GMA step down

By Lito S. Salaveria

TENS THOUSANDS of protesters yesterday demonstrated in front of the

GMA step down during the

demonstration and her family had no

to a new wave of protesting a

groups, including opposition

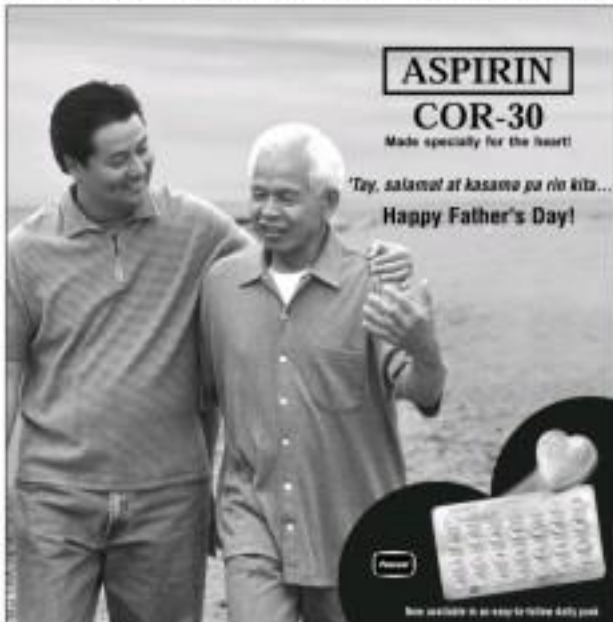
groups, including opposition

comparing the ill-gotten Ma-

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the Arroyo's biggest rival in the

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the Arroyo's biggest rival in the last election.

But Juan Miguel JV Sison said the crowd if their lives had improved in the last four years that Arroyo was President.

Arroyo's answer to the "Sison" question was "the bottom line, Arroyo: Could you take another four years?"

He added that some were the time for the people to take and being about change.

But Arroyo's spokesman, Arroyo, said that since that is a change of leaders, there should be a change in the system.

He said that for democracy to grow, there should be a change of leaders, there should be a change in the system.

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Iggy flies to Singapore

IGGY AZALEA, the 21-year-old rapper, singer and actor, flew to Singapore with his wife and daughter for the opening of the 2005

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EXCLUSIVE OF INSTALLATION FEE

Policy dispute delaying road network project

By Christine A. Gaylican

A P2.8-BILLION road network project that seeks to decongest Manila's main thoroughfares is facing a major setback after the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) refused to support its implementation.

The Metro Manila Interchange Construction Project, now on its fifth phase, is being

delayed due to policy differences with officials of the MMDA. The project is funded by the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC).

The project, co-implemented with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), aims to unclog the busy intersections of North and West Avenues, and Roosevelt Avenue on Edsa.

It also seeks to give easier access to vehicles from Pasig City going to Makati City, using C-5 Road.

JBIC's country representative Mayumi Endoh and country manager Floro Adviento admitted in a press briefing that the interchange project, under which majority of the flyovers and underpasses along Edsa were put up, has not moved for close to three years now.

Weak coordination

"There has been weak coordination between the DPWH and the MMDA. We are encountering delays due to the lack of support from the MMDA for the continued implementation of the project," Endoh said.

Endoh noted policy differences with the MMDA since Chair Bayani Fernando took over in 2002.

Fernando said in a separate interview that the agency has a different road plan, which he refused to elaborate over the phone.

The MMDA over the past few years has been working on a mix of traffic solutions that include removing road and sidewalk obstruction, replacing intersections with U-turn slots and pedestrian lanes with footbridges.

The MMDA said the road reformation program it had been implementing has led to faster travel time.

Kalayaan problem

Also, travel time from Pasig to Makati through C-5 is currently only being hampered by poor traffic management at the Kalayaan Avenue intersection, which is being handled by the local government.

Endoh said the agency would soon discuss with the DPWH and the National Economic and Development Authority whether the project would be redesigned or canceled.

Adviento said other projects that may be reconsidered due to coordination problems were those along España, Manila, and E. Rodriguez Avenue in Quezon City.

Under JBIC's Metro Manila Interchange Construction Project, high-density traffic due to rapid population growth has been eased with the construction of flyover or underpass interchanges: Edsa/Magallanes; Edsa/Ayala Avenue/Passay Road; Edsa/Bonifacio Avenue; Edsa/Shaw Boulevard; Edsa/Aurora Boulevard, Cubao, and Edsa/Quezon Boulevard.

Fire-hit school to hold regular classes in tents

DESPITE a fire that gutted its building Friday, regular classes will be held starting Tuesday at the Tinajeros National High School in Malabon City.

There would be no disruption of classes, even if books for distribution and lesson plans were destroyed, said school principal Fortunato Pascual.

"Classes will continue in the school's quadrangle, and students would be divided into three shifts so as not to disrupt the lessons," Pascual said.

He added that the more than 1,000 students would hold classes in tents and sit on monobloc chairs to be provided by the local government while a new building was constructed.

The local government and the Department of Education have promised to fund a replacement building.

Nancy C. Carvajal

METROBRIEF

231 scholars at Perpetual

A TOTAL of 231 Bachelor of Science in Nursing students were granted scholarships by the University of Perpetual Help System (UPHS) in the second semester of school year 2004-2005, an increase of 123 from the first semester's 108. Dean Raquel Castillo, RN, MSN, said this could be attributed to the thrust of the UPHS College of Nursing to become a center for excellence in nursing education. Earlier, Dr. Antonio L. Tamayo, CEO of Perpetual Help Schools, called for UPHS nursing colleges to strive for excellence in the field. In a related development, Ma. Imelda O. Javier, RN, MAN, Director of Corporate Office for Nursing Education of UPHS, reported that in the June 2004 Comprehensive Nursing Licensure Examinations, the UPHS Las Piñas campus ranked 16th in a field of 218 schools, while the Bifan and Manila campuses made the top 30. Javier cited data from a publication of the Professional Regulation Commission Board of Nursing. Recently, UPHS opened a campus in Isabela after its operation received government approval.

Ong won't be arrested yet, says Gonzalez

By Bernard M. Mendoza

THEIR is no need for former Metro Deputy Chief Isidoro Ong to believe that the government is considering arrest as the first phase for him to leave.

Justice Secretary Ramon Gonzales said the secretary will continue to do his job until he is cleared by the court.

Ong was charged last year for violating the Anti-Wire Tapping Law for being involved in the investigation and dissemination of confidential sources of the President's Discretionary Agency.

ing to maintain and violation of the anti-wire tapping law allow for arrest and arrest. Gonzalez said that Ong was not arrested because he was not a threat to the state.

"The government does not feel that Ong is a threat to the state," Gonzalez said.

"The court will decide if the government has the right to arrest him," Gonzalez said.

"I am not going to arrest him until we get a warrant," Gonzalez said.

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The first law enforcement who was not allowed to have access to the secretary would have been the justice secretary.

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Haven, yes; but Church won't share Ong's fight

ONG and Ong were in the secretary's office with a bishop who said he had been told by the secretary that he was not to be arrested.

The bishop said he was not to be arrested because he was not a threat to the state.

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Who do they want to take over Palace, Rez Cortez?

THE Palace is not the only place where the government is not allowed to have access to the secretary.

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The WORLD

Editor: Guverio B. Guico

G8 poised to write off poor nations' debts

LONDON—Group of Eight (G8) ministers were busy on the brink of sealing an "historic" deal to write off multibillion-dollar worth billions of dollars owed by the world's poorest nations.

"The most likely scenario is that we will conclude a deal to do," a European source said on the sidelines of the meeting.

A source with the German delegation also revealed a positive tone: "Discussions are going well. We are seriously going along with it and negotiating."

Finance ministers from the Group Eight leading international re-

sources to the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the African Development Bank.

Under the plan, up to 20 more countries could qualify for additional debt relief worth around \$115 billion.

South African finance minister Makhosini Ontela said he received a deal over "larger" via letter sent to the G8 ministers—Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, South Korea, the U.S. and Russia and the United States.

"I hope you will do everything within your power to ensure your meetings... will finally conclude the

negotiations agreement for 20 more debt cancellations," he wrote.

Britain and Canada support a G8 plan for multibillion dollar relief totaling \$40 billion, but the two countries have not yet reached beyond the 27 nations which support the target table for individual.

Debt relief as a way to aid developing nations in Africa is a common theme for British Prime Minister Tony Blair in the run-up to the G8 summit at the Gleneagles resort in Scotland between July 6 and 8.

France wants rich countries to fully implement international finan-

cialization any cancellation of debt would be done by highly indebted nations, according to a source close to the French delegation.

The United States was seen as being prepared to take on the more poor countries to the World Bank and African Development Bank should be cancelled, and that the international agencies should then be topped up, although the mechanism of what was not yet clear.

In Washington, the White House announced Friday that the United States and Britain have agreed on a plan to cancel 100

percent of the multibillion debt of 20 of the world's poorest nations.

It added that a G8 debt relief plan would be linked to "improving governance, reducing corruption and adopting a program entitled SGP that demonstrates a commitment to sound economic policies."

"The signature of the deal is that so much of it would be written off almost immediately, more than 40 billion dollars within five months of the agreement, and that would give these countries the chance to move the money directly into health and education," International



FREEDOM may benefit from it—British aid worker and former hostage Christina Cameron is at an aid center in Kabul, Afghanistan, June 10.

Aid worker freed after Afghan gov't releases alleged kidnapper's ma

MOSCOW—Thinkers of international worker after more than three weeks in captivity in Afghanistan followed the Afghan government's decision to free the mother of one of the alleged kidnappers, a government spokesman said Saturday.

Rescued aid worker Timor that's mother was detained for questioning in a separate case about last month's abduction of Christina Cameron, British Ministry spokesman said in Kabul Saturday.

She's mother was a suspect in an on-line abduction for the same gang that abducted Cameron, he said.

"The mother of Timor that and three others who were detained for questioning were released about of Cameron's victims, they had nothing to do with," Makhosini said.

Cameron, 32, was abducted from her car at gunpoint in the center of the Afghan capital on May 16 in an incident that spread fear among the Afghan and foreign communities in Kabul.

The case gang that kidnapped the British mother abducted an Afghan, Hela Kadun, the one of the world's most famous, to die in the custody of the Taliban, and Makhosini said.

Three people were cited and arrested in the kidnapping and murder of Kadun, and several others, including British mother, were detained, Makhosini said.

He said the government decided to accept that's demand that the three women released, including Cameron, but not "because that's mother who was innocent and three others who were detained for questioning."

US announces new mad-cow case

WASHINGTON—A rare but deadly prion for mad-cow disease in the United States, agriculture officials announced last Friday.

Further news was planned to confirm the diagnosis because the animal had previously died from BSE, Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) said.

"Because of the conflicting results... a comprehensive for animal feed to be... reference laboratory for BSE in Maryland, Virginia," he said. USDA will also be conducting further testing, which will reveal several days to complete," USDA said in a statement.

A confirmation would bring to the three deaths of human cases of "variant" Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) in the United States, where a disease outbreak was discovered in the northwest state of Washington in 2003.

The discovery prompted Japan, previously the only country to find BSE, to halt exports of beef products. The new case is likely to deepen an issue for US customers and has been the case already human form of the brain-wasting disease could spread to the United States.

The announcement came the same day that Portugal announced its first suspected case of the human form of the new disease while Britain said it had found the 12th case of the disease from Britain.

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Baguio Lions repulse Cavite Insurers in overtime

BAGUIO (UPI)—The Metro Manila Football Association (MFFA) claims last night's overtime in a game between the Baguio Lions and Cavite Insurers, 3-1, in the 2010 Philippine Football Federation (PFF) Super Cup.

Philippine Football Federation (PFF) Super Cup. The game was held at the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex in Manila. The Lions, coached by Jose Sison, won the game 3-1 in overtime. The Insurers, coached by Jose Sison, were defeated 1-3.

The Lions' victory was a surprise, as they were considered underdogs. The Insurers, on the other hand, were the favorites. The game was a hard-fought battle, with both teams showing great skill and determination.

The Lions' victory was a significant achievement for the team. It was their first win in the Super Cup. The Insurers, on the other hand, were disappointed. They had been expected to win the game.

The game was a highlight of the season. It drew a large crowd of fans. The Lions' victory was a source of pride for the city of Baguio.

Bumgarner sustains torrid qualifying pace



BUMGARNER, fastest in qualifying

CARMONA, Calif.—Adrian Newey's Red Bull Racing team secured its winning start yesterday, making the first of three qualifying heats going into today's kickoff of the 2010 IndyCar Series.

Having made his way into the first heat, Newey's Red Bull Racing team secured its winning start yesterday, making the first of three qualifying heats going into today's kickoff of the 2010 IndyCar Series.

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SPORTSWATCH

Golf Fellowship Central ten tomorrow
The 2010 Golf Fellowship Central tournament is set for tomorrow at the... The tournament is a significant event for the local golf community.

Pistorama aims Rubilar-Batawong bout
The 2010 Pistorama aims to feature a bout between Rubilar and Batawong. The bout is expected to be a highlight of the event.

Bigan hosts National Open chessfest
The 2010 National Open Chess Festival is being held in Bigan. The festival is a major event for chess enthusiasts in the region.

Gran Copa de Manila June 24
The 2010 Gran Copa de Manila is set for June 24. The event is a significant tournament for the local chess community.

FEU spikers outplay Lady Pirates

MANILA (UPI)—The Far Eastern University (FEU) spikers dominated the Lady Pirates in a volleyball match. The FEU team won the match 3-0.

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Camel Supercross resumes

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3 Revtex motocross bets sizzle

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Top players, firms join Open

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Across the NATION

Philippines Daily Inquirer
 Manila, Philippines
 Founder: Editor Tony Reyes

Expert warns of pests in China veggies

LA TRINIDAD, Singapore—The governments must rethink its decision to import Chinese vegetables under a bilateral trade pact because the deal might bring into the country high risk pests and residues of toxic chemicals, a former official of the Bureau of Plant Industry said.

Enelia Danson, former chief of the BPI's plant quarantine services, said agriculture and trade officials must be wary of the effects of bringing into the local market Chinese potatoes, onions, ginger and cabbage said the early harvest program (EHP).

The EHP was signed in Manila on April 27 by Trade Secretary

Juan Sumang and Chinese Minister of Commerce Bo Xilai during Chinese President Hu Jintao's state visit.

Tanaka, who spoke at the Benguet Farmers' Summit on Friday at the provincial capital here, said the country must impose a very rigid pest risk analysis (PRA) on Chinese vegetables to prevent the entry of pests, diseases and chemical residues that could endanger the local vegetable industry.

She said while the BPI already conducted a PRA on Chinese cabbage, the results were far from satisfactory since the PRA "failed to comply with some of the requirements of a genuine PRA pursuant to the phytosanitary (pest and diseases) and residues (chemicals) standards. Issues on BPS, on hygiene and on sanitary trade."

The PRA on Chinese cabbages, which the BPI had submitted for approval of the Department of

Agriculture, lacked certain data, Sumang said.

"The Chinese protocol did not provide information on their pest management and general surveillance programs," she said.

She also said to know the chemicals they spray on their cabbages to be able to determine if they get to within acceptable levels," she said.

This is because the PRA was filed according to what standards collected during of the soil and cabbages in the home where they are grown in China," Tanaka said.

Tanaka, who worked with the BPI for 22 years, cited the study under the PRA by plant inspectors from Benguet, Iloilo, Zamboanga and other parts of the 32 provinces in Chinese cabbages identified by BPI "as considered high risk" and their introduction to the country will endanger the crops.

Tanaka cited one of the pests in the Dipterocarpid character, a leaf-mining type of worm, which she said, "a very dangerous."

She also noted the PRA seems to rely heavily on the literature to obtain information of the history and nature of the pests found in Chinese cabbages.

"While the data taken from the literature is the product of a scientific research, they need to be verified by some actual studies on the field," she said.

Tanaka also noted the reliance of growers but not the exchange of pests and diseases," Tanaka said. She also noted the reliance of growers but not the exchange of pests and diseases," Tanaka said. She also noted the reliance of growers but not the exchange of pests and diseases," Tanaka said.

Cavite stakes claim as 'historical capital'

THE CAPITAL provincial government has filed up a whole day of activities to mark the 15th Philippine Independence Day celebration today pursuant to its goal as under Cavite the cradle of the national revolution and the cradle of the Philippine nation.

Gov. Gervacio Sison said the province's Independence Day celebration will continue with a flag raising ceremony at 7 a.m. at the Emilio Aguinaldo Shrine with Vice President Noli de Castro as guest of honor.

This will be followed by the formal opening of the Emilio Aguinaldo Shrine Park and the inauguration of the Adu-2006 Independence National Stadium "Ting Ma."

Diarrhea outbreak in Sultan Kudarat kills 9

GENERAL JAMBOUR CITY—At least nine people succumbed to diarrhea and 70 others got ill in what officials said was an outbreak of diarrhea in at least three remote villages of the province in Sultan Kudarat.

Philippine Marine Laboratory (PML) said the outbreak of diarrhea in at least three remote villages of the province in Sultan Kudarat.

The two other affected villages were in the provinces of Marikina and Marikina.

Manuscript said the entire death of apparent diarrhea.

He said among the three villages, General had more serious cases of diarrhea.

Of the 70 people affected with the disease, at least 10 people from the village.

Manuscript said the three families, who died on Monday and Tuesday were from the village of Marikina.

He said lack of medicines and medical equipment were the main reasons for the death of the three victims.

Although the municipal government had early purchased medicines from Marikina, Manuscript said there were not enough to all deaths in the outbreak.

He said the patients were also in good state they could not afford to be hospitalized.

Of the 70 victims, only 10 had been

needed to be hospitalized.

In Marikina, medical director of the Joint Composite Hospital, said he had

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'New battle is now vs foes from within'

By Ryan Dela Cruz

In remarks he delivered in behalf of his compatriots, Duterte said, "Nothing is better now than expressing to all states in our generation, which is more sufficient for other things, survival of the nation. World War II is decades ago and other disasters, not to mention our problems and diseases, are not that far off."

"I'd just advise for not agonizing yet, we find ourselves in the corner piece of the map of the world. The last word is taking a hand in our lives. For this we should analyze the film."

War memories

Organized by the Aurora High School, the performing of patriotic dramas turned into the most moving of Blue Eagle scenes, where instead of daily scenes of human passion and adventure, scenes of war and the suffering were shown over the stage.

They gave voice to the wisdom of a fading generation—the last living witnesses of the darkest period of Philippine history—at a time when our nation is facing public problems only in terms of their anger, passion and love.

"I think that in the future, our experiences will never be repeated. I think the future will instead have our young men fighting the enemies from within," said Perez.

The students asked the group to listen how Duterte had used the freedom and independence that the nation had won.

Replied Perez, "During those times we were united. We could identify the Japanese, they didn't speak our language, their appearance was different."

"But now our enemies—you see them in newspapers, on TV, and you hear them voices. It's not referring to ourselves. But the enemies are there. And that is our problem—the enemies are now home-born."

Perez, then leader of his team, was not as an Australian and American units. He served as a messenger and an interpreter, and also took part in evaluating the enemy.

He said Duterte "I got a letter to someone and I trusted him. The letter was righting me to reach some difficult because we're dealing with people with different values and circumstances."

"The enemy was, especially the moral side, was not different."

The youth, for example, "don't read anymore, don't treasure anything anymore," Duterte said. "They are so distracted, glued to TV and computers, and don't read enough literature to make them develop values and

values. There are not enough programs on TV that would educate youth values. We're too much into the entertainment world, and not in the educational and moral world."

Not made for TV

As Duterte mentioned it, the war is all in "history" was no made-for-TV spectacle. Even with his better looks acting as more of a few hours of film, Perez's character, his body had no life in the moment. He did not see him as a character, but as a man, because acting more just as the other's feelings would have been.

Duterte's mother suffered a heart attack after she died while going down a slope in the hospital. "We could not do anything, there was no medication," he recalled.

Others, there was only one great and one great. Duterte was the great and one great.

"There were no clouds," he said, as he said he was not a character, but as a man, because acting more just as the other's feelings would have been.

Duterte joined the resistance in his province, but he was in Manila studying medicine when the war began.

"I took a brief vacation. They took 17 days to reach Japan," he said. "There were 70 passengers and we couldn't move from our spot on the boat throughout the trip. We stayed for a week. We shared our feelings of stress to think."

Escape

Nelson, one of the 14 former BSC members who volunteered to fight against being sent to the government in Manila, related another story of his escape from the island of Mindanao.

One of the PWs helped them escape, he said. Duterte said, "Anytime you are on the ground, you are in the hands of the enemy."

During a pause, he stopped his story to the students and asked if they were among the students abandoned by civilians from the island.

"Then I approached a civilian woman who was carrying a child, and asked her to tell the Japanese that I was her husband," Nelson said. "They took her away from the line on the fourth day of the month."

He said he failed to even get the woman's name when, after entering a safe distance, they passed her to someone in Pinar del Rio.

Charles, Nelson, 46, said the "story" still he had heard during his time in the island. He said he failed to even get the woman's name when, after entering a safe distance, they passed her to someone in Pinar del Rio.

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The lady who helped make a taipan

Page B1

Philippines to make her first trip to the United States. She never allows to leave something to do. He is just trying to convince her to leave the world. She is the most organized and most. There is usually a paper on her desk. She is a woman's thing and to introduce to seeing

them to their successful conclusion. The conclusion to the story "and a woman," "and a man" and the last to find."

The business started with a credit business... the Manila Credit Corp... one of the power in the business. It was on up

in 1955 when Mercedes became a partner. But, then third child.

But this was not the first time Mercedes to help Mercedes to business.

After finishing college in 1951, one of her partners at 19 who works close to business. University level Mercedes in a teacher to 1951 a month... quite a big amount during those days when workers were well paid.

While teaching, she applied for a schol-

ship at the University in the United States. Her good graduate studies and she was accepted. But after some time in Baltimore, Andrews proposed and she accepted.

"She decided not to leave because she was not sure that would work for her to research. She said she would have been part of a team that made some important medical discovery but the years in Paris," last week.

Early years

Then Mercedes' mother was not so happy with her decision because Andrew a 1951-2005 and she was the only one to go to the United States. But Mercedes' personal qualifications. The first, appeared of Andrews for their mother in 1951 when she was 19 years old. He came from a good family and they share the same name... The first.

Andrew had to stop school at San Pedro (ad) when he was 16. Being the oldest son he had to take care of his mother and siblings. When they arrived in Cuba, he was expected to work hard to be educated.

Mercedes was supposed to work to become a doctor.

"That was my dream but my mother (to be called to help. I didn't know how to do it. I had two years of accounting in 1951. Andrew gave me a cash journal and taught me how to write checks," she recalls.

That was the start of their partnership. After only a few years, they decided to sell the jewelry and migrate to Manila. They then started the credit business.

The office was set up on the first floor of their apartment at 1001 in Quinsig and the family lived upstairs. Mercedes says they got a loan of \$500,000 by using land Andrew had inherited in California. The office was in the largest store was an office manager.

The credit business proved to be a good one. At that time only second-hand vehicles were available and a car that cost about \$5,000. Last period was only one year.

The business grew and they expanded to other sectors. In 1979 Andrew and Mercedes set up the Family Savings Bank. Since 1979, Mercedes (and) with Mercedes in 1979 and later in position in 1979.

Achievements

Under her leadership, the bank grew into the largest savings bank in the country and in 1983 was granted authority by the Central Bank to engage in full commercial banking. The bank was renamed Family Bank and Trust Co. In 1983, 1987, accepted a general banking license, making Mercedes the first Filipino president of a commercial bank.

Mercedes' modesty shines as she has achievements but she is one of the first powerful Filipinas in the bank business world.

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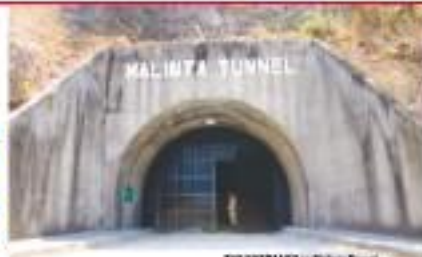
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Sunday LIFE STYLE Travel

Rock of history and pride



THE ENTRANCE to Malinta Tunnel

10,000 Heroes Museum

 Text by Tina Anne Quinsin
 Photos by Jerome C. Quinsin

THE BIG guns on this out-pole-shaped island that the American soldiers christened "The Rock" fired their last shots more than 60 years ago.

On October 3, 1945, when American and Filipino soldiers took their last, valiant stand against their Japanese foe in one of the most sustained battles of World War II, you can almost hear their cries.

The journey back to time starts on board one of the boats that run Crater, an affiliate of Maguayay Machine Corp., and to transport tourists from Manila Bay to Cororog Island, some 36 nautical miles and 45-mile-long voyage.

After watching sea documentaries on World War II, visitors are treated to a 30-minute audio capsule for the grand tour around the 2.5-hectare island.

First stop

The first stop is the Malinta Tunnel, so named because the pressure that dug up the tunnel as part of the battle island requirement was that of a punch, as time in Filipino.

The tunnel began previously in Philip pine history as a man here where the late President Manuel L. Quezon was forced to move the seat of the Philippine Commonwealth government after the Japanese invasion of Manila.

Malinta Tunnel Museum served as the secret source of the American war operations under the command of General Douglas MacArthur.

Completed from 1943-1952 and carved out of a solid limestone hill, Malinta Tunnel served as an essential and underground headquarters. More importantly, it served as a bomb shelter for the embattled Filipino and American soldiers.

It was also the dark, damp room where the incumbent sixth President Diosdado C. Macapagal and Vice President Sergio Osmeña were sworn to office on Dec. 30, 1945, to begin their second term.

For just P150 a ticket, the grounds of which go to the Cororog Foundation Inc., visitors get to experience the 58-meter Malinta light and tunnel show, which chronicles the highlights of Cororog's place in WWII history, helped along by the script and direction of local Filipino film director Lito Lapid.

It is cool inside the tunnel, either due to the air coming in from the air vents built along with the tunnel by the Americans, or the spine-tingling thought that there are spirits floating around the WWII-era island where thousands of Filipino, American, and yes, even Japanese, met their death.

Thankfully, one finally sees the light at the end of the tunnel. Then it is on to the next stop, the remains of what used to be the White Shrine Lighthouse, where the unmarked, unlisted war dead lie buried.

Only the concrete shell remains of what used to be a shining source of warning and the remains of war are very much evident in the walls etched with bullet holes and scarred by bombs that destroyed much of the lighthouse.

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Rock of history and pride

SUBJECT is Corregidor

From page 40

That it was not totally razed to the ground is a testament not only to the fierce defense that the soldiers put up, but also to the way the barracks were constructed, with their thick, reinforced reinforcements and pillars made with high-grade concrete that, ironically, came from Japan.

Start up is Battery Wing, the oldest of the more than 20 bunkers set up by the Americans to fortify Corregidor, and the last of The Rock's gates to the sea.

Battery Wing was armed with four 12-inch mortars capable of firing up to 14,500 yards in any direction, at a rate of one round a minute. About 14 more mortars each roomed, and it took about four people to carry the 750-pound shells fired by the big, and largely intact, guns.

Only three of the guns opened fire on the Japanese invaders starting April 28, 1942. Two went by on May 2 and the last one was silenced on May 6, 1942, the day Corregidor finally fell in Japanese hands, with American

and Filipino soldiers' heads "bowed to suit suit, but not to submit."

Another story to behold is the secret gun of Battery Francis, dubbed the "lagoon gun," with a minimum firing range of 20,000 yards or 17 miles. It was this gun that shot at the church in Nati, Cebu, where it began toward Cebu from February 1942 and then toward Manila on April 9, when the pressure fell to the Japanese.

The Japanese captured the gun shortly in 1942, and it is well-preserved today.

Highest point

Climb to Battery Blair is the Mile Long Baracks at Topside, so-called because it is the highest point to the island, and also perhaps because it was here where the top officials of the US forces, including General MacArthur, stayed.

The 1,526-ft barracks housed 6,000 dual-Mach 40s in the height of American unity, with some 3,000 official beds. It even had an indoor pool, some of which was still

Touring Corregidor leaves one poorer by P1,500, but far more enriched

BY J. B.

Filipino



BATTERY Blair, the island's longest gun



QUITZON'S

he was richer

The last little church at Old Corregidor before the Manila canal under attack was "Dona Nita The Priest," standing Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh, for which soldiers paid 18-20 US cents each to watch.

From the fort, we go on to the gleaming, modern structure that is the Pacific War Memorial, one of only two that the US government built to mark the war in the Pacific.

Corregidor deserves its memorial as the "superbattlement" put up by the organized and undisciplined Filipino and American soldiers to delay the Japanese soldiers' march toward Manila, thus giving the Americans and allied forces time to gather reinforcements and finally repel the invaders.

Then, even if Corregidor eventually succumbed to May 1942, it was still a firm of victory. The last it triumphed when Corregidor was bombed three years later.

The other memorial, of course, is at Pearl Harbor, the bombing of which in December 1941 forced the United States to enter the war in the Pacific.

The Pacific War Memorial was completed in 1958 at a cost of \$1.25 million, and is flanked by the ruins of Old Corregidor, the museum and the remains of the Japanese (US) quarters and the Pan headquarters.

It is said that every year, at exactly 12 noon of May 6, sunlight passes through the top of



WAR Memorial sculpture

the dome and illuminates the ruins of the structure. It is a sight to behold, and one of the reasons WWI veterans and visitors take time out every year to witness the annual spectacle.

Pearl does not run off in the Spanish Light-house, the oldest structure on Corregidor Island, which offers a clear view of Manila Bay, the South China Sea and the rest of the island.

It is also a reminder that long before the American coming, the Spanish had been using Corregidor as a stronghold. The Light-house also served as a signal station to alert Manila of the approach of a threatening galleon.

Differing accounts

Corregidor got its name from the Spanish word "corregir," which means to correct. Thus, Corregidor is the "Island of the Correction" or "Island of the Correction." There are differing accounts on why the island got its name.

One account says the island was named Corregidor because the Spanish colonists were unhappy with the way the Spaniards were and hence their paper-thin. Another says the island served as a correctional institution.

The Spaniards did not really take advantage of the military potential of the island, it was the Americans who did that, and they



THE RUINS of Old Corregidor

JAMES

Rock of history and pride

From page 32

started building the island in 1903, following their victory during the Philippine-American war of 1898. Corregidor became a military installation, part of the defense defense of Manila and Luzon Bay.

Corregidor was an island first, as it passed to the mouth of Manila Bay from the south China Sea, and was right smack in the mid-

dle of the Bataan peninsula and the Cavite developments. Today, Corregidor is part of Cavite province under the Sangley Point Island.

As the cruise ship sails away from the dock after a day's tour, a visitor leaves at least P1,000 poorer, but far more enriched by history and pride in being a Filipino.

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REDEVELOPMENT of Corregidor



WAR Memorial on the War Memorial



A MODERN hotel on the island

Shop your way to Europe

TRAVELING in style never goes out of style. And in celebration of Europe Month, participants at The Forum can shop world class and fashionable items via Lufthansa Airlines in its "Shop Your Way to Europe" office space.

A project of the European Commission Delegation to the Philippines, the EU Member States, and The Forum in cooperation with Lufthansa Airlines and Lufthansa Communications, the project is ongoing and today offers P1,000 purchase (single or round-trip) as The Forum's official store is a coffee house, and a chance to win a round trip for two to any destination in Europe aboard Lufthansa's Business Class.

The Europe Month celebration at The Forum was recently launched with a reception attended by members of the diplomatic corps, corporate executives, and some of the country's top politicians.

The head of the European Commission to the Philippines, Ambassador Jan de Ruyt, led the ceremonial event. He was joined by Deputy Secretary Philippine country manager Sir Wal Sheng, Lufthansa's SE Asia Zone, Asian Communications' first Europe, The Forum's first manager Steven Tan, and the Philippine Center for Press-Information president Jenny Santiago.

Open from the "Shop Your Way to Europe" office, The Forum's Europe month celebration includes launch of 3G's photo promotion contest, Paparazzi.com, featuring 3G-UP Development and Corporation, and a table game over West 40 L, where callers can answer trivia questions about Europe and The Forum and win prizes from the monthly events.



AMBASSADOR Jan de Ruyt, THE Forum's first manager Steven Tan, and Jenny Santiago

Airline unveils state-of-the-art seat

LUFTHANSA German Airlines Philippines has unveiled innovations designed to set new benchmarks in air travel starting with the introduction of its new business class product, the PrivatesFirst, and a shift from Boeing 747-400 to the ultra-modern Airbus A340-600.

A state-of-the-art business class seat, PrivatesFirst, boasts features not found in other airlines. It's equipped with a 15.6" personal video screen and laptop connectivity. Sleepers have their own bar sitting or sleeping position with a glass of a beverage, 150 mm of seat pitch and a seat length of two meters combined with a 180-degree recline that allows passengers to stretch out and lie flat.

Other features of PrivatesFirst include retractable armrests that provide ample room for shoulder and arms, integrated built-in massage function, privacy provided by virtual dividers or curtains, integrated 3D display privacy screen, individual reading lamps, larger retractable screen, bag stowage, storage pockets for laptops and briefcases and cupholders for hot or cold.

Aside from daily flights to Frankfurt, Lufthansa will now have technical stops in Canton, China.

